

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

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DRAFTED BY OES/APT/SEP:ASHELDON:DBU

APPROVED BY OES/APT/SEP:WAROOT

USGS:WARADLINSKI (SUBS)

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FEA:BEVERETT (INFO)

ERDA:PFRANK (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 177175

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, US, UR

SUBJECT: ENERGY: POLLUTION RE OIL AND GAS (08.06)

REF: A) STATE 155031, B) MOSCOW 540, C) MOSCOW 10752

1. PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ROOT TO NIKOLAI K. KREMS, DEPUTY CHIEF, FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF OIL INDUSTRY, MOSCOW, WITH COPIES TO CHELPONOV, GRIGORASHCHENKO AND MALTSEV.

2. DEAR MR. KREMS: DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS EARLIER THIS MONTH REGARDING JOINT ACTIVITIES UNDER THE ENERGY AGREEMENT, YOU RAISED SEVERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SEPTEMBER VISIT OF OUR DELEGATION ON POLLUTION FROM OIL AND GAS.

THE PROPOSED SEPTEMBER 20 ARRIVAL DATE IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S. DELEGATION, NONE OF WHOM WILL BE ATTENDING THE INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN MOSCOW ON SURFACTANTS. WE SHALL FOR-
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WARD THROUGH OUR EMBASSY IN EARLY AUGUST THE U.S. PAPERS

FOR THE SYMPOSIUM INCLUDING THE PAPER ON TECHNIQUES AND EQUIPMENT FOR INSURING SAFETY OF PETROLEUM OPERATIONS, WHICH IS DIRECTED TOWARD PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS THAT COULD RESULT IN ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

WITH RESPECT TO THE ITINERARY YOU PROVIDED DURING THE COURSE OF OUR MEETING, THE U.S. SIDE BELIEVES THAT, WHILE THE PROPOSED ONE-DAY TOURS OF TASHKENT, AND SAMARKAND WOULD BE MOST INTERESTING, THE TIME COULD BE SPENT MORE PROFITABLY BY TOURING THE SHATLYK GAS FIELD AND THE KHIVA COMPRESSOR STATION TO DISCUSS ANY EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT FROM OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS AT THESE FACILITIES. FOR INSTANCE, WE HAVE SEEN REPORTS THAT THERE WERE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THIS AREA IN 1975 FROM BREAKS IN ABOVE GROUND NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION LINE CAUSED BY TOO HIGH INTERNAL PRESSURE. A VISIT TO BAKU TO OBSERVE DRILLING OPERATIONS OFFSHORE WOULD ALSO BE OF INTEREST. AS MENTIONED BEFORE, AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE FIRST-HAND ANY EFFECTS OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN THE GAZLI AREA ON PETROLEUM FACILITIES WOULD BE MOST DESIRABLE.

I HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE AN ITINERARY WHICH WILL ACCOMMODATE OUR DELEGATION'S REQUESTS. MR. RADLINSKI REMINDS ME THAT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU AND MINISTER TAKOYEV WHEN YOU WERE LAST IN WASHINGTON IT WAS AGREED THAT SITE VISITS SHOULD BE MEANINGFUL WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE JOINT PROJECT AND SHOULD NOT BE SCHEDULED IF THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IS SIGHTSEEING AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. KISSINGER

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